

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

Summer Resorts Offered Uncle Sam



WASHINGTON.—If Uncle Sam wanted to go into the summer resort business, now would be his golden opportunity. He has scores of chances to acquire for a song hotel and resort property of great scenic beauty, though possibly of little commercial value, according to the agents booming them. Whether Uncle Sam will "bite" will depend upon the national forestry commission.

The efforts to sell are being made under the Weeks' Forestry law, otherwise known as the Appalachian Forest Reserve act. Last spring, when advertisements were issued for land to be purchased with the \$11,000,000 appropriated by that law, the rush began. It has continued since then until nearly every owner of a "busted," down-at-the-heel summer resort in the mountain sections of the southeastern states and New England has tried to unload upon the government.

Already over 2,000,000 acres have been offered for sale to the government. All of this is not summer resort property, but a considerable proportion of it is. The resort property is not offered for the buildings on it,

but for the beautiful "parks" about them, which are always heavily timbered and suitable for forestry purposes, according to the promoters. If all the land offered were to be bought it would probably cost Uncle Sam \$100,000,000 instead of \$11,000,000.

One of the leading summer resort "forest reservations" which the government has been asked to buy is the Natural Bridge in Virginia, for which something like a quarter of a million is wanted. Accompanying the offer was a beautiful painting of the bridge, which was great for scenic beauty, but did not seem to be much for timber. No charge was made for the picture, it was explained. The promoter of this property did not admit it, but it is well known that the Natural Bridge died a natural death in recent years.

A large number of other resort and hotel properties in the White Mountains and the much advertised "Land of the Sky," or "Sapphire Country," of Carolina are being offered to the government at ridiculous prices—whether ridiculously high or ridiculously low will be for the forestry commission to say.

Certain big White Mountain hotels want the government to buy whole mountains so that the trees thereon will be preserved for the benefit of their guests. Lands are being pressed upon the government for \$50 to \$100 an acre, but few if any of these will be bought.

To Auction Off Decrepit Warships

THE contemplated sale by the United States government of 43 warships classed as obsolete in the latest navy report will open an extensive field to the battleship broker. The lot will include battleships, armored and protected cruisers, monitors and gunboats. Rapid development in the building of dreadnoughts has caused battleships and other war craft which ten years ago were considered formidable, to fall behind present requirements. Consequently the government plans to get rid of them, either by breaking them up and selling them as junk, or disposing of them to South American republics.

Among the battleships classed as obsolete are the Kearsarge, Kentucky, Alabama, Maine, Massachusetts, Indiana, Ohio, Oregon, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin. It cost to build them \$64,405,225. When the Kearsarge and the Kentucky were put in commission several years ago they were among the finest battleships afloat. Their batteries of seven-inch guns were impressive, but now, compared with ships like the Delaware, the



Michigan, the Florida, they seem insignificant.

The cruisers doomed to the scrap heap are the Brooklyn, New York, St. Louis, Charleston and Milwaukee. The Brooklyn was Admiral Schley's flagship at the battle of Santiago. The total cost of these is \$20,350,275. The unarmored cruisers that were serviceable in the Spanish war, but in a modern sea battle couldn't approach the enemy within ten miles or more, are the Olympia, Dewey's flagship at the battle of Manila bay; the Raleigh, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, Boston, Marblehead, Atlanta, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Montgomery, Minneapolis, and Columbia. Total cost, \$25,965,732. Warship brokers in this country naturally will look to South America as the most likely field for business.

This Country Full of Foreign Spies



SPIES, according to reports in Washington, are still at work finding out for the nations which they represent the secrets of this country's defense. Not satisfied with their "military attaches"—sometimes called the title of a spy not in disguise—these nations, directly or indirectly, have been working all the time throughout the world collecting information. This information is of every sort; economic, geographical, commercial, but especially military. It is the first duty of these men to report all details they can gather of the fortifications in the country to which they are assigned. All this information is eventually filed in the vaults of the general staff, and on it, to a large degree, depends the preparedness of the country for war.

In New York itself there are doubtless many spies besides the consuls.

Draftsmen Separated From Pay-Roll

EIGHTY draftsmen, whose annual salaries aggregate a quarter of a million dollars, were dispensed with at the end of last month. This force has been busy for years making individual plans for the government's public buildings throughout the land.

The treasury officials, in taking stock of cash on hand, found that they had only money enough to pay these draftsmen. Therefore they asked congress for \$200,000 to keep them on the payroll for the next nine months, completing the fiscal year.

But there was nothing extra coming from congress to meet such a situation and it was suggested that as the government has over six hundred drawn plans for all kinds of public buildings the draftsmen could be dispensed with and new buildings authorized built upon plans already made use of.

Of course without the necessary money the treasury officials had to let the draftsmen go. The old practice of carrying clerks when there was no money to pay them with and having congress make up the deficit when



convenient does not appeal to the officials in the departments any longer. Several years ago a law was passed making it an offense for an official to create a deficit or to use money appropriated for one specific purpose for another purpose for which the regular appropriation had become exhausted.

Not only will there be a saving of \$250,000 for the present fiscal year, but there will also go on indefinitely a saving of a quarter of a million dollars each year, for the treasury officials have let the draftsmen go for good.

There are now in the United States, erected and in use, 662 public buildings, costing from \$25,000 to \$8,000,000 each, the last named figure being the cost of the New York custom house.

For the Hostess

The Yarn Charm to Find Partners.

One of the oldest stunts for Halloween was to find one's future mate by the aid of a ball of yarn. A maiden was to take a ball of yarn and toss it through an open window and then hold the end in her hand and walk away. If she was to carry with in the year the ball would be picked up by the man inside, who began to wind up the yarn and thus draw her back to him. A young matron should use this method of finding partners for her Halloween supper, which is to be served at 8:30. Knowing the preference of her guests, she will have the right man for each maid concealed in the garage. One at a time the girls will be given a ball of yarn, there being one ball for each girl, and she is to go alone through the yard, which is to be lighted only with "jacks" in the trees. When the man winds up his maiden, who is instructed not to drop her end no matter what happens, they will go out a rear door of the garage and into the house by a side entrance. Then the next man is slipped into the hiding place and another girl started to meet her fate. There are to be ten couples, so this will add much to the fun and mystery. If the details as given here are not practical, the same scheme may be worked by throwing the ball over a transom or over a banister down stairs.

Recipe for Chop Suey.

I give the recipe for chop suey which is fine to serve at Halloween feasts. The rice is to be eaten with chop sticks, which are to be retained as souvenirs, each pair being tied with red ribbon.

One five-pound chicken.
A pound and a half of tender beef.
One pound of celery.
Two pounds of bean sprouts.
One ounce of Chinese sauce, known as sol.

One can of mushrooms.
Salt, thickening.
Cook the chicken and beef together till they are very tender, take out all the bones, add the mushrooms, onions sliced in very thin slices, the celery sliced in thin pieces, and do not cook very long; then add the bean sprouts and the thickening, and last the sol. Enough for ten people.

To obtain the bean sprouts soak beans in water till they absorb it all, then keep them damp and in a very warm place. The sprouts come very quickly, so there is plenty of time to prepare them. Sol may be purchased at a large grocery or at a Chinese store; lacking these, use Worcester-shire sauce. Serve the chop suey in bowls with rice and the tea in cups without handles. For the table centerpiece have a witch's kettle with incense burning inside.

New and Old Tricks.

"We are tired of bobbing for apples," said a young devotee of the department who was asking me for new stunts for Oct. 31. But did you ever bob for them prepared in this way? In a light zinc tub which may be brought from the laundry put at least a dozen red apples, and in four of them conceal a ring, a thimble, a button and a coin. Just press the articles carefully into the fruit and the mutilation is not discernible in the water. The boy or girl getting the ring will be married or engaged within the year. The thimble means no such luck; the one getting it must remain single or unmarried for another twelve months. The coin means wealth and the button means, one must win fame or fortune by one's own exertions.

Who remembers the old trick of

trying to get a coin out of a pan of flour with the teeth, the hands being tied behind the back? This is a laughable sight. Sometimes a wedding ring is concealed in the flour, and the one getting it will be married within the year. Of course, the coin denotes wealth.

Party Given in Barn.

I must tell you briefly of one party to be given in a barn, where the decorations will be branches of autumn leaves, which remain brilliant in the country far longer than in town. There are to be grinning "jacks" set on posts along the driveway, and inside the barn all the lanterns are to have electric lights to avoid possibility of fire. Cucumbers, squash and many other vegetables are to be made into lanterns and candle holders. The hostess is to dress as an old witch, and all the girls are to have witches' hats, surmounted by black cats, presented to them. The boys will wear hats of scarlet and adorned with horns.

A Chinese feast is to be served at a table where black and scarlet dragons will run rampant. The part of the barn reserved for the party is to be gay with Chinese lanterns, fans, screens and parasols.

A Halloween Party Invitation.

Use a Halloween post card or a pumpkin-shaped card and write the following jingle for an invitation to a party on Oct. 31. It is appropriate for either children or grown-ups:

At our house on Monday night
You will surely see a sight
Of ghosts, and goblins, witches, too,
Are busy preparing fates for you.
The hour is 8, don't be late,
But come—be brave at any rate.

Halloween Cakes.

Often a few novel recipes have to creep into the department, so now for these very unusual and seasonable rules. First for "Jack o'lantern" cakes: From a plain loaf cake baked in a sheet cut pumpkin-shaped cakes about two and a half inches wide and two inches thick and ice with frosting colored yellow, with the yolk of eggs or with saffron. While the icing is still moist, insert two small red candles for the eyes and nose and a row of them for the teeth.

For the "clock faced" cakes, buy a few vanilla wafers, coat with vanilla frosting and let them dry. With melted chocolate and a new small paint brush you make the numerals of the clock, the hands in the center pointing to midnight, "the witching hour."

Children adore these confections, which require only a little time and patience. I am sure every mother is more than willing to do this.

MADAME MERRI.



Green is the ruling favorite for evening gowns.

Three piece suits of serge are in great favor.

White serge has jumped into favor with a bound.

Skirts show a decided tendency toward drapery.

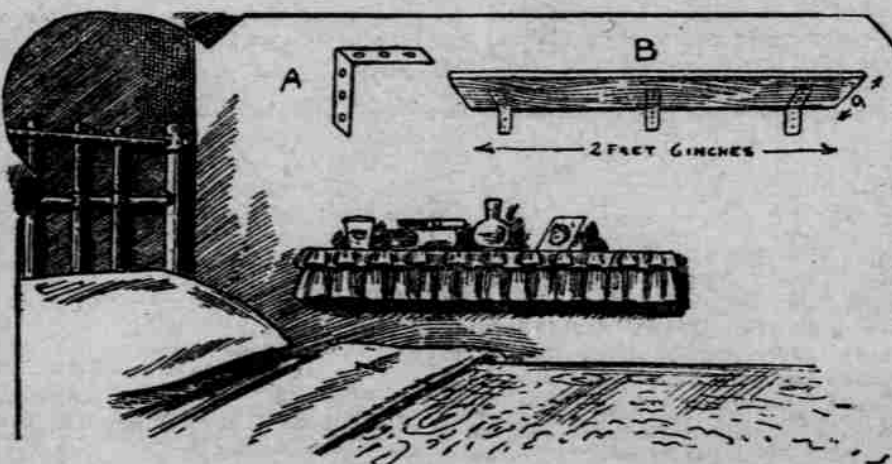
There seems to be no end of black velvet sashes.

Satins continue to hold a firm position in fashion.

Rows of tiny buttons are used on wraps and gowns.

The director coat may be a feature of fall fashions.

Invalid's Bed Shelf



Anything that tends to the comfort and ease of an invalid, who may for a long period be confined to bed, is well worth attention, and our sketch illustrates a capital suggestion that may be carried out without much difficulty.

The bed should be placed in the corner of the room against the wall, and a shelf about nine inches wide by two feet six inches long, fastened to the wall in the position shown. This may be easily done, and a piece of board of the size mentioned should be procured, and three strong metal brackets of the nature indicated by diagram "A" in the sketch fastened on underneath. Brackets of this kind can be obtained for very little at any ironmonger's, and the shelf can then

be securely nailed to the wall.

Diagram "B" shows the under side of the shelf and indicates the position in which the three brackets should be fastened. For appearance sake, a little flounce of some pretty cretonne can be tacked all round the edge of the shelf, and the material may easily be arranged so that it forms a tiny frill at the top with a flounce hanging down underneath.

A shelf of this kind will prove the greatest boon to an invalid, as on it may be kept well within reach all those little things in the shape of books, papers, watch, glass, etc., that are always so necessary for the invalid to have handy, and who may thus obtain them with the least possible exertion.

Latest Kansas Events.

Kansas City Theaters.

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," perhaps the most popular play that has been seen on the American stage in nine years, comes to the Grand Opera House for the week beginning Sunday, October 22. All the famous characters of the books "Mrs. Wiggs" and "Lovey Mary," including Mrs. Wiggs, Mrs. Hazy, Lovey Mary, Mr. Stubbins, Little Tommy and the rest, will bid for the approval of those who appreciate the best in dramatic art.

William Faversham will present his new play, "The Faun," at the Shubert during the week commencing Monday evening, October 23. The play is a comedy of the most amusing type, full of humor that is within everyone's understanding yet written with a distinct literary charm. Miss Julie Opp is the principal player in Mr. Faversham's supporting company.

Ottawa Plans Pure Food Show.

The united commercial travelers of Ottawa have formed an organization to be known as the Traveling Men's Association of Eastern Kansas. Officers and committees were elected and plans will be started at once to prepare for the pure food show and the manufacturer's exhibition which will be held in Ottawa, December 23 to 30, inclusive. Manufacturers all over the United States will be invited to have exhibitions and booths will be arranged for them.

School Teacher Missing.

Ralph Johnson, professor of mathematics at the Sterling high school, is sought in Wichita and surrounding towns by officers and friends who fear that he has been killed. Mr. Johnson rode into Wichita from Sterling with Calvin Knight, a school friend, who was coming from California to attend school. Since leaving Knight at the depot Mr. Johnson has not been seen.

Helpless Kansan a Suicide.

Unable to use his arms because of injury two years ago in a furniture factory, Edward Bolme of Wichita, 55 years old, when his wife deserted him drank carbolic acid. His body was found by neighbors who had not seen a light in the house for two nights.

Confetti Throwing Barred.

The city commission at Wichita passed an ordinance prohibiting the throwing of confetti, talcum powder, rice, flour or any similar substance in the city limits. Complaints of persons attending the street fair caused the city commissioners to act.

Got a Mail Order Bride.

Fred Niemeyer, 66 years old, a retired farmer, living in North Topeka, and Mrs. Mary Limbach, 53 years old, of Clarkson, Neb., were married at Topeka as the result of a correspondence courtship. She is Mr. Niemeyer's third wife and he is his wife's third husband.

A Woman Tied the Knot.

For the first time in Chase county a marriage ceremony has been performed by a woman. In the absence of her husband, probate judge at Cottonwood Falls, Mrs. Wells, as judge pro tem., united an anxious young couple.

Montgomery to Aid Dawson.

It is announced that W. P. Montgomery, assistant attorney general, who has been stationed at Pittsburg for the last year to enforce the prohibition law, will leave and take a position in the office of Attorney General Dawson at Topeka.

Disappeared From St. Marys.

Mrs. Dora Lehmis left St. Marys three weeks ago for Excelsior Springs, Mo., and has been heard from but once since that time. Her husband and relatives have been searching for more than two weeks but have been unable to locate her.

Appointed Boiler Inspector.

A. P. Glueck, of Salina, for 28 years an employ of the Union Pacific railroad has received notice of his appointment as boiler inspector by the interstate commerce commission, a position created by the last congress.

New Hall at St. Benedict's College.

Another new building, to be known as Wolfe hall, will be erected at St. Benedict's college, Atchison in the spring. It will be one of a \$1,000,000 group to be built at the college.

Church Trial Postponed.

The trial of Maxwell Church, former cashier of the Holyrood, Kan., State bank, charged with defaulting has been postponed until October 23.

Cigarettes Caused Suicide.

"Cigarettes are the cause of my downfall," wrote Earl Johnson of Winfield just before taking his own life. The writing was scratched on a rock near his body. He had shot himself twice with a rifle.

Infantile Paralysis in Wichita.

The first serious case of infantile paralysis in Wichita was reported by telegraph to the state board of health. The victim is a child 23 months old. A strict quarantine has been instituted.

Twenty Years at K. U.

Twenty-nine thousand five hundred and thirty-five students have been registered at the University of Kansas by Registrar George O. Foster, who has just celebrated his twentieth year at the university. Registrar Foster probably is better known over Kansas and Missouri by alumni of the school than any other man in K. U. today. Every student that has entered or has graduated from the university for the past 20 years knows George Foster.

Improves Aeroplanes.

C. L. Vanderburg of Hutchinson believes he has accidentally discovered a plan to control the operation of bomb-carrying aeroplanes while the machines are flying. The aeroplane is steered by wireless and the idea came to Mr. Vanderburg while working on a monoplane model at his home. When he has his idea completely worked out and protected by patent he will make it public.

Caney Lays Gas to Factories.

Caney voted by a majority of five to one in favor of an issue of \$30,000 bonds to build a municipal gas pipe line from the newest gas field, four miles southwest to supply factories. The city pays 3 cents in the field and sells the gas to factories at 5 cents a 1,000 cubic feet. Work will begin immediately. There already are four gas pipe lines leading to Caney, but the new line will be used exclusively for the factories.

Girls' Dormitory Fund Started.

The campaign for a girls' dormitory at the University of Kansas was begun by 800 Kansas women at the woman's day celebration in Robinson gymnasium at Lawrence. The girls, sitting by counties, with banners over their heads, resembled a political convention, but subscriptions of \$2,465 were made at the luncheon served after the meeting.

Stubbs Addressed Picnic.

Gov. Stubbs was the principal speaker on the closing day of the Fraternal Aid association picnic at Harper. The picnic was a success, drawing big crowds, despite drizzling rains on the first day and a dust storm on the second day. A big parade of fraternal orders, A. H. T. A. members, civil war veterans, etc., was a feature of the day.

No Court Delay for Depot.

In a decision rendered in the district court at Wichita Judge Sargent denied the injunction asked for by a wholesale grocery company against the railroads included in the elevated track and union depot proposition there and the county commissioners, who had ordered the property asked for condemned.

Mother Berated a Jury.

The coroner's jury, which sat at Stark in the inquest over the body of John Woodruff, who bled to death near there, decided that Woodruff came to his death from hemorrhage and shock produced by accidental gunshot. The verdict was very unsatisfactory to Woodruff's mother, who had to be silenced by the sheriff.

A Spider Migration.

Thousands of cobwebs, some of them exceeding ten feet in length, passed over Junction City recently, blown by the wind to the southwest. The air was full of the webs, which could be plainly seen. They were from 20 to 200 feet in the air and spiders could be seen on many of them.

Didn't Miss 400 Hens.

Four hundred fine Leghorn hens were stolen in one night from the flock of J. H. Saxer, a farmer of Buck Creek, but he didn't miss them from his flock of 1,500, until, instead of gathering the customary two cases of eggs a day the egg receipts one day took a sudden drop to 15 dozen.

Drank Sacramental Wine.

Because he drank the wine which was to be served at the sacramental ceremonies in the dedication of the new Christian church at Wameau, Fred Sauble, a 19-year-old youth, of Homestead, was arrested by Sheriff Rockwood and committed to the county jail.

Manhattan Enrollment Increased.

The drought did not affect the enrollment of students at the Kansas state agricultural college. It is larger this year than last by more than 100. The fall term opened with 1,895 students. At this time last year there were a few less than 1,800.

Practical Domestic Science.

Practical domestic science has been taken up by two students in the University of Kansas. They do their cooking in the basement of their rooming house and their average living expense has been \$2 a week.

Aids a Kansas Church.

R. A. Long of Kansas City has given \$500 to the Christian church of Lawrence. This makes the second gift received by the church from Mr. Long. The first donation of \$1,000 was made some time ago.